



本署檔號 Our Ref.

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To: All Bedspace Apartments Licensees,

Health Information on Cases of Influenza A (H7N9)

As advised by the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health, the National Health and Family Planning Commission has recently notified CHP of a number of confirmed human cases of influenza A (H7N9), which is a type of avian influenza (AI). The CHP is maintaining liaison with the Mainland health authorities and monitoring the development of the outbreak closely.

So far, there is no evidence of human-to-human transmission and no human case of H7N9 AI has been detected in Hong Kong. However, mortality from Influenza A (H7N9) is high and the mutation potential of the virus has been reported to be high. As such, the disease should not be treated lightly.

The CHP advises the public that they should pay particular attention to personal and environmental hygiene and should wash hands frequently. In particular, the following measures should be adopted:

- Avoid touching poultry, birds or their droppings, because infected poultry, birds or their droppings may carry the avian influenza virus;
- Wash hands thoroughly with liquid soap and water immediately in case of contact with poultry, birds or their droppings;
- Do not touch the eyes, nose and mouth casually;
- Cover nose and mouth while sneezing or coughing. Dispose sputum or secretions wrapped in tissue paper into rubbish bins with lids. Wash hands with liquid soap and water afterwards;
- Build up good body resistance and have a healthy lifestyle. This can be achieved through a balanced diet, regular exercise, adequate rest, reducing stress and no smoking;
- Poultry and eggs should be thoroughly cooked before eating;
- Maintain good environmental hygiene;
- Use 1 in 99 diluted household bleach containing 5.25% sodium hypochlorite for environmental disinfection on a regular basis;
- Maintain good indoor ventilation;
- Avoid crowded places with poor ventilation if feeling unwell; and
- Seek medical advice if fever or respiratory symptoms develop.

In order to enhance awareness to guard against human infection with AI, the CHP has developed guidelines on its preventive measures. More information is available on CHP's

website (http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/her_list/463/24/13.html).

We should be most grateful if you could help disseminate the content of this letter to the tenants of your apartments so that they would be kept informed of the situation and to adopt preventive measures.

Thank you very much for your attention and assistance.

Yours faithfully,

Signed
(Winston SK LEUNG)
Chief Officer, Licensing Authority